

people of Honduras through the rule of law in defense of their constitutional democracy exercised their means of self-defense, we are told that that is of the utmost interest to the United States and we must demand an outcome in accordance with our will and the will of the OAS, which now includes Mr. Fidel Castro, no fan of elections.

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Can you tell me why the freedom of the Iranian people is to be left in the hands of their murderers and why the freedom of the Honduran people is to be taken from theirs and put in the hands of butchers like Fidel Castro and others such as Chavez? I eagerly await a response, although I do not know that I will find it edifying, let alone satisfactory. I yield back.

Mr. MARIO DIAZ-BALART of Florida. I thank the gentleman. And also coming with us tonight is a person who also has a distinguished and effective record of fighting for human rights and freedom around the globe, the gentleman from Florida (Mr. LINCOLN DIAZ-BALART).

Mr. LINCOLN DIAZ-BALART of Florida. Well, I want to thank you for calling this Special Order, convoking it and focusing in on this very important, really critical subject. Winston Churchill talked about the fact that facts are better than dreams. There are facts with regard to the crisis in Honduras. The people of Honduras acted constitutionally. Their institutions acted constitutionally in removing a President who was acting unconstitutionally, and they removed him. The institutions, the democratic institutions of Honduras removed a President who had been acting unconstitutionally on June 28. Those are facts.

The Obama administration is wrong when, in this case, it sides with Chavez and Castro, Ortega, Correa, the other anti-democratic elements in this hemisphere who are pressuring for the imposition of the President who had violated the Constitution in Honduras for his return, his forceful return, unconstitutionally to power. The Obama administration is wrong. That's a fact.

Now, there's another fact that is of importance, and that is we saw a number of Members of Congress here almost at midnight, because of the importance of this issue, tell the American people that after thorough study, they have come to the conclusion that the Obama administration is wrong and that the Honduran people acted appropriately. It's a fact that there is a growing number of Members of Congress who are becoming involved, educated and are expressing themselves with regard to this issue. That's a fact that the Obama administration needs to take into consideration, because as was mentioned before, even if the situation were different, and even if the Hondurans had acted unconstitutionally in removing President Zelaya from power, the solution to the crisis should

be evident to all: free and fair elections, especially when the candidates were chosen before the crisis began by all of the political parties.

So what is most not only incorrect, but almost inconceivable, Madam Speaker, is that the Obama administration is not only wrong with regard to what happened in Honduras, is not only wrong with regard to whom it is siding with and whom it is siding against, but that even if the administration were not wrong with regard to what has happened, the evident solution being the elections of November 29, are not being supported by the Obama administration, but the Obama administration is saying that they will not recognize the will of the Honduran people as expressed on November 29.

That is inconceivable—beyond wrong. That is inconceivable, Madam Speaker.

So, facts: Congress is aware of how wrong the administration is. Congress is aware that the Honduran people are proceeding with an election on November 29. The reason that the majority leadership is not bringing to the floor of this House a resolution to express support for the elections, the resolution was filed by Ms. ROS-LEHTINEN and others, expressing support for the elections that are going to be held November 29, the reason the majority leadership does not bring that resolution to the floor is because it would win a majority vote, because the fact is a growing number of Members of Congress, I maintain by now a majority of this House, are aware of the gross unfairness with which that small nation is being treated by this administration.

So I think it's important for the administration, Madam Speaker, to take note, tonight, almost at midnight, that Honduras, despite the pressure, despite the fact that it's a small country, is moving forward with elections. Those elections deserve not only support and respect, but commendation. And further efforts to deny the Honduran people their right of self-determination, their right to express themselves freely by secret ballot on November 29 is wrong.

That's a fact.

More and more people in this Congress are learning the facts. And I hope, Madam Speaker, that the administration takes note and reverses itself, backs off from not supporting elections, from not supporting free determination and, rather, supports the Honduran people.

I thank you, Congressman MARIO DIAZ-BALART, for focusing attention, for your leadership role on this critical issue. Not only do the people of Honduras deserve it, but the hemisphere requires the further attention of the American people to this critical issue. Thank you very much.

Mr. MARIO DIAZ-BALART of Florida. I want to thank the gentleman from Florida for really summing it up so well that, yes, regardless of what may have happened, the solution is there, it's evident. It's the elections that are coming up.

The American people need to understand, need to know that this administration, unfortunately, is siding, siding, is on the side, is siding with Hugo Chavez and Fidel Castro in trying to stop the democracy, the democratic process, the elections that are about to take place in Honduras. They need to know that.

This administration needs to understand that history will judge this administration if it does not reverse itself and sides with the people of Honduras, with their election, with their freedom. And also the Honduran people need to understand that we have great admiration for them, that we respect their process, their Constitution, and we commend them for going forward with their elections, their free, democratic, multi-party elections.

Thank you, Madam Speaker, and with that, I will yield back the remaining part of my time.

#### LEAVE OF ABSENCE

By unanimous consent, leave of absence was granted to:

Mr. ABERCROMBIE (at the request of Mr. HOYER) for today and tomorrow.

Mrs. BIGGERT (at the request of Mr. BOEHNER) for today after 4:30 p.m. and for the balance of the week on account of personal business.

Mr. BUYER (at the request of Mr. BOEHNER) for today after 12:30 p.m. and for the balance of the week on account of illness.

Mr. DREIER (at the request of Mr. BOEHNER) for today after 3:15 p.m. through Monday, October 26, on account of events in the district.

Mr. GOHMERT (at the request of Mr. BOEHNER) for today on account of attending a funeral.

Mr. HINOJOSA (at the request of Mr. HOYER) for today and the balance of the week.

Mr. WALDEN (at the request of Mr. BOEHNER) for today and the balance of the week on account of illness.

#### SPECIAL ORDERS GRANTED

By unanimous consent, permission to address the House, following the legislative program and any special orders heretofore entered, was granted to:

(The following Members (at the request of Mr. POLIS) to revise and extend their remarks and include extraneous material:)

Mr. KAGEN, for 5 minutes, today.

Mr. WEINER, for 5 minutes, today.

Ms. WOOLSEY, for 5 minutes, today.

Ms. KAPTUR, for 5 minutes, today.

Mr. DEFAZIO, for 5 minutes, today.

(The following Members (at the request of Mr. DEAL of Georgia) to revise and extend their remarks and include extraneous material:)

Mr. POE of Texas, for 5 minutes, October 29.

Mr. JONES, for 5 minutes, October 29.

Ms. ROS-LEHTINEN, for 5 minutes, October 23.

Mr. BURTON of Indiana, for 5 minutes, October 29.

Mr. GOHMERT, for 5 minutes, October 26, 27, 28 and 29.

Mr. INGLIS, for 5 minutes, October 26.  
Mr. WESTMORELAND, for 5 minutes, today.

Mr. PAULSEN, for 5 minutes, October 23.

#### SENATE ENROLLED BILL SIGNED

The Speaker announced her signature to an enrolled bill of the Senate of the following title:

S. 1793. To amend title XXVI of the Public Health Service Act to revise and extend the program for providing life-saving care for those with HIV/AIDS.

#### ADJOURNMENT

Mr. MARIO DIAZ-BALART of Florida. Madam Speaker, I move that the House do now adjourn.

The motion was agreed to; accordingly (at 11 o'clock and 58 minutes p.m.), the House adjourned until tomorrow, Friday, October 23, 2009, at 9 a.m.

#### EXECUTIVE COMMUNICATIONS, ETC.

Under clause 2 of Rule XXIV, executive communications were taken from the Speaker's table and referred as follows:

4222. A letter from the Secretary, Securities and Exchange Commission, transmitting the Commission's "Major" final rule — Internal Control Over Financial Reporting In Exchange Act Periodic Reports of Non-Accelerated Filers (RIN: 3235-AK48) received October 16, 2009, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); to the Committee on Financial Services.

4223. A letter from the Acting Assistant Secretary Fish and Wildlife and Parks, Department of the Interior, transmitting the Department's final rule — Special Regulations; Areas of the National Park System (RIN: 1024-AD79) received October 1, 2009, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); to the Committee on Natural Resources.

4224. A letter from the Attorney, Department of Homeland Security, transmitting the Department's final rule — Safety Zone; Hood Canal Bridge Cable Laying Operation, Hood Canal, WA [Docket No.: USCG-2009-0496] (RIN: 1625-AA00) received October 6, 2009, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); to the Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure.

4225. A letter from the Attorney, Department of Homeland Security, transmitting the Department's final rule — Safety Zone; Sabine River, Orange, TX [Docket No.: USCG-2009-0359] (RIN: 1625-AA00) received October 6, 2009, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); to the Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure.

4226. A letter from the Attorney-Advisor, Department of Homeland Security, transmitting the Department's final rule — Security and Safety Zone; Cruise Ship Protection, Elliott Bay and Pier-91, Seattle, Washington [Docket No.: USCG-2009-0331] (RIN: 1625-AA00) received October 6, 2009, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); to the Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure.

4227. A letter from the Attorney-Advisor, Department of Homeland Security, transmitting the Department's final rule — Safety

Zone; IJSBA World Finals, Lower Colorado River, Lake Havasu, AZ [Docket No.: USCG-2009-0194] (RIN: 1625-AA00) received October 6, 2009, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); to the Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure.

4228. A letter from the Attorney, Department of Homeland Security, transmitting the Department's final rule — Special Local Regulation for Marine Events; Mattaponi River, Wakema, VA [Docket No.: USCG-2009-0460] (RIN: 1625-AA08) received October 6, 2009, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); to the Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure.

4229. A letter from the Attorney-Advisor, Department of Homeland Security, transmitting the Department's final rule — Safety Zone and Regulated Navigation Area, Chicago Sanitary and Ship Canal, Romeoville, IL [Docket No.: USCG-2009-0789] (RIN: 1625-AA11) received October 6, 2009, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); to the Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure.

4230. A letter from the Attorney-Advisor, Department of Homeland Security, transmitting the Department's final rule — Safety Zone and Regulated Navigation Area, Chicago Sanitary and Ship Canal, Romeoville, IL [Docket No.: USCG-2009-0767] (RIN: 1625-AA11) received October 6, 2009, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); to the Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure.

4231. A letter from the Attorney-Advisor, Department of Homeland Security, transmitting the Department's final rule — Security Zone; Calcasieu River, Hackberry, LA [Docket No.: USCG-2009-0317] (RIN: 1625-AA87) received October 6, 2009, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); to the Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure.

4232. A letter from the Attorney-Advisor, Department of Homeland Security, transmitting the Department's final rule — Safety Zones: Fireworks displays within the Captain of the Port Puget Sound Zone [Docket No.: USCG-2009-0752] (RIN: 1625-AA00) received October 6, 2009, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); to the Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure.

4233. A letter from the Senior Import Policy Analyst, Import Administration, Department of Commerce, transmitting the Department's final rule — Changes in Procedures for Florence Agreement Program [Docket No.: 080102004-9266-02; FDMS Docket No. ITA-2009-0002] (RIN: 0625-AA75) received October 1, 2009, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); to the Committee on Ways and Means.

4234. A letter from the Office Manager, Department of Health and Human Services, transmitting the Department's "Major" final rule — Medicare Program; Part A Premium for Calendar Year 2010 for the Uninsured Aged and for Certain Disabled Individuals Who Have Exhausted Other Entitlement (RIN: 0938-AP43) received October 19, 2009, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); to the Committee on Ways and Means.

4235. A letter from the Office Manager, Department of Health and Human Services, transmitting the Department's "Major" final rule — Medicare Program; Inpatient Hospital Deductible and Hospital and Extended Care Services Coinsurance Amounts for Calendar Year 2010 [CMS-8037-N] (RIN: 0938-AP42) received October 19, 2009, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); to the Committee on Ways and Means.

4236. A letter from the Office Manager, Department of Health and Human Services, transmitting the Department's "Major" final rule — Medicare Program; Medicare Part B Monthly Actuarial Rates, Premium Rate, and Annual Deductible Beginning January 1, 2010 [CMS-8039-N] (RIN: 0938-AP48) received October 19, 2009, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); jointly to the Committees on Energy and Commerce and Ways and Means.

#### PUBLIC BILLS AND RESOLUTIONS

Under clause 2 of rule XII, public bills and resolutions of the following titles were introduced and severally referred, as follows:

By Mr. KRATOVLIC:

H.R. 3898. A bill to amend the Internal Revenue Code of 1986 to extend the temporary increase in limitations on expensing of certain depreciable business assets; to the Committee on Ways and Means.

By Mr. OLSON:

H.R. 3899. A bill to extend temporarily the duty on 1,3-bis(4-aminophenoxy)benzene (RODA); to the Committee on Ways and Means.

By Mr. OLSON:

H.R. 3900. A bill to extend temporarily the duty suspension on 4,4'-Oxydiphthalic anhydride (ODPA); to the Committee on Ways and Means.

By Mr. LEWIS of Georgia (for himself, Mr. BOUSTANY, Mr. PASCARELL, Mr. CROWLEY, and Ms. TITUS):

H.R. 3901. A bill to amend the Internal Revenue Code of 1986 to enhance the administration of, and reduce fraud related to, the first-time homebuyer tax credit, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Ways and Means.

By Mr. HELLER:

H.R. 3902. A bill to amend the Internal Revenue Code of 1986 to extend the first-time homebuyer tax credit and to eliminate the first-time homebuyer requirement and increase the adjusted gross income limitations with respect to such credit, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Ways and Means.

By Mr. REHBERG:

H.R. 3903. A bill to amend the Internal Revenue Code of 1986 to provide a partial exclusion of interest from the gross income of individuals, to increase retirement plan contribution limitations, and to temporarily suspend minimum distribution requirements for certain defined contribution plans; to the Committee on Ways and Means.

By Mrs. MALONEY (for herself, Mr.

FRANK of Massachusetts, Ms. WATERS, Mr. MAFFEI, Mr. MILLER of North Carolina, Mr. HINOJOSA, Ms. MOORE of Wisconsin, Mr. HODES, Mr. CAPUANO, Mr. ACKERMAN, Mr. KANJORSKI, Mr. ELLISON, Mr. GUTIERREZ, Ms. SPEIER, Ms. ESHOO, and Mr. JONES):

H.R. 3904. A bill to amend the Truth in Lending Act to establish fair and transparent practices related to the marketing and provision of overdraft coverage programs at depository institutions, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Financial Services.

By Ms. BERKLEY (for herself, Mr.

BRADY of Texas, Mr. DAVIS of Alabama, and Mr. NUNES):

H.R. 3905. A bill to amend the Internal Revenue Code of 1986 to repeal the 1-year termination of the estate tax, to increase the estate and gift tax unified credit, and to coordinate a reduction in the maximum rate of tax with a phaseout of the deduction for State death taxes; to the Committee on Ways and Means.

By Mr. TEAGUE:

H.R. 3906. A bill to amend title 38, United States Code, to authorize appropriations for the Department of Veterans Affairs program to provide financial assistance for supportive services for very low-income veteran families in permanent housing; to the Committee on Veterans' Affairs.

By Mr. DOYLE (for himself, Mr. SHERMAN, Ms. HIRONO, Mr. SMITH of New Jersey, Mrs. LOWEY, Ms. BERKLEY,